

# County DIGEST



MAY 2004

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## Message from the Chairman



*The Board of Supervisors is dedicated to improving the quality of life and services for Los Angeles County residents. As Chairman of the Board, I am pleased to report some positive developments coming out of Sacramento. Local government leaders and Governor Schwarzenegger are close to an historic budget agreement that, if enacted by the Legislature, will provide long-term protections for vital local government services in Los Angeles County and cities and counties throughout the State, like police and fire protection, parks, libraries, road repairs and more.*

*The cornerstones of an agreement would include a two-year budget compromise where local governments would help the State one last time, in exchange for long-term constitutional protection that prohibits the State from ever taking local government funds again in the future.*

*While these short-term sacrifices would undoubtedly impact us here at home, the long-term protections would provide much-needed fiscal stability at the local level and ensure we can continue funding the critical local services upon which our residents rely.*

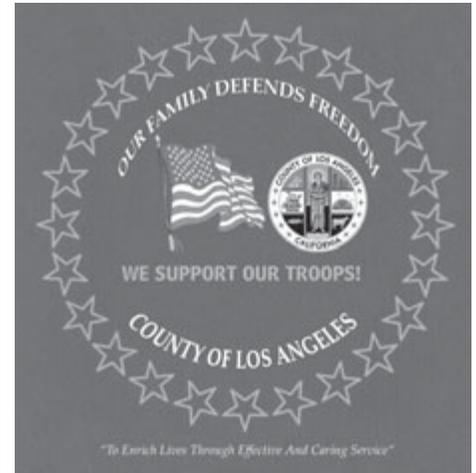
*The Governor has pledged his strong leadership in moving such a package through the legislature, and ultimately helping pass a constitutional reform measure on this November's Statewide ballot that prohibits future State raids of local government tax dollars.*

*Governor Schwarzenegger has given local government leaders an active seat at the table and we are looking forward to working with him, the legislative leadership, and the entire legislature to solve the fiscal imbalance between State and local government.*

**DON KNABE**  
Chairman of the Board  
Supervisor, Fourth District  
County of Los Angeles

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

## We Support Our Troops!



**Join the "Treats for the Troops" campaign.**

**For more information, please contact your departmental Quality and Productivity Manager.**

## HIGHLIGHTS

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# EVENT CALENDAR

**Please join Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich at his 7<sup>th</sup> Annual “Remembering Our Veterans and their Families” event**

May 29: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Arcadia County Park  
405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia 91006

**Ford Amphitheatre**  
**2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East Hollywood, 90068**  
**(323) GO-1 FORD (323)461-4673**  
**www.fordamphitheatre.org**

*BWF - Big! World! Fun! Family Shows*

## May

29 – Brazil, Women for Life

## June

5 - BWF- Enoch Train “Heads, Shoulders, Knees & Trains” (10 a.m.)

5 - Latino Playreading Series (1 p.m.)

5 - Nannette Brodie Dance & Enoch Train “Heartland: The Immigrant Experience”

11 & 12 – Floricanto Dance Theatre & Quetzal “Fandango Without Borders”

12 - BWF – Daniel Slosberg “Pierre Cruzatte: A Musical Journey Along The Lewis and Clark Trail”

12 - Latino Playreading Series (1 p.m.)

13 - Al-Andalus to Jerusalem: Levantine Festival

16 - Dance Camera West “The Red Shoes”

18-20 – Los Angeles Film Festival

19 - Latino Playreading Series (1 p.m.)

25 - Marta Carrasco “Blanc d’Ombra/White in the Shadow”

## Hollywood Bowl

**2301 North Highland Ave., Hollywood 90078**  
**(323) 850-2000**  
**www.hollywoodbowl.com**

June 13 – Los Angeles Philharmonic: Sneak Peak at the Hollywood Bowl

June 25 – Opening Night at the Bowl – Hollywood Bowl Orchestra

June 27 – KCRW’s World Festival: Brazil Night

## EVENTS

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# LACERA Elections for Board of Retirement and Board of Investments

Safety Members are encouraged to vote in the upcoming LACERA elections for the Seventh Member and Alternate Member of the Board of Retirement, and the Fourth Member of the Board of Investments. The elections will be held on Tuesday, July 27.

Using the employee’s address on the Auditor-Controller’s master file, the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk will mail ballots to eligible safety members via US mail on Tuesday, June 29. If you do not receive an original ballot, you may request a duplicate ballot through your Departmental Election Coordinator no later than Thursday, July 15.

The Registrar Recorder/County Clerk must receive voted ballots before 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27. The Board of Supervisors will certify election results at its meeting on Tuesday, August 17.

For more information, you may visit the Board of Supervisors’ LACERA Election Information Web site at [http://bos.co.la.ca.us/lacera\\_election.htm](http://bos.co.la.ca.us/lacera_election.htm) or contact your Departmental Election Coordinator.

## County DIGEST

Articles and other submissions to the *County DIGEST* may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

Department of Human Resources  
3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000 (10th floor)  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

(213) 639-6386

(213) 639-0940 FAX

Available online at: [hr.co.la.ca.us](http://hr.co.la.ca.us)

**WeTip WELFARE FRAUD**  
**1-800-87-FRAUD**

## Free Marina del Rey Summer Concerts Debut July 8

The fourth season of Marina del Rey Summer Concerts, presented free to the public, will debut waterside in Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, Thursday, July 8, at 7 p.m. The series features Thursday evening classical concerts with the Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, conducted by Frank Fetta, with stellar soloists; and on alternate weeks, Saturday pop concerts starring celebrated musical entertainers.



*The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony conducted by Frank Fetta*

The 2004 season lineup is as follows:

- Thursday, July 8 - The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, Frank Fetta, Music Director; Lindsay Deutsch, violin soloist. Music by de Falla, Chadwick, Corigliano, Massenet, Dvorak.
- Saturday, July 17 - Jazz sensation René Marie and trio.
- Thursday, July 22 - The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, Frank Fetta, Music Director. Music by Ravel, Wagner, and Mussorgsky.
- Saturday, July 31 - An evening with Judy Collins.
- Thursday, August 5 - The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, Frank Fetta, Music Director and singers from the Los Angeles Opera appear in “An Evening with the Los Angeles Opera.”

- Saturday, August 7 - The Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra: A Tribute to Henry Mancini. Artistic Director Patrick Williams. With special guest, Monica Mancini.
- Thursday, August 19 - The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, Frank Fetta, Music Director; Xin Xin, piano soloist. Music by Stravinsky, Khachaturian, Rachmaninoff.
- Saturday, August 28 - The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, Frank Fetta, Music Director; with special guest star Diane Schuur. Ballads with Diane and the orchestra and jazz with the Diane Schuur Trio.

County employees are invited to come early and enjoy delicious outdoor dining at the new Café Lorelei in the park. Warm clothing is advisable. Parking at a reasonable rate is available in County Lot 4 near the venue. Water service to and from the Burton Chace Park concert site from five other locations throughout the Marina is provided for \$2 per person each way by the Coast Link Water Shuttle, operating from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Classical Thursdays and 11 a.m. to Midnight on Pop Saturdays. Comfortable chairs are available for rent in the park.

The Marina del Rey Summer Concerts are presented free to the public by Arrowhead Mountain Spring Water. Sponsors are Supervisor Don Knabe, the Department of Beaches and Harbors, and The Ritz-Carlton, Marina del Rey.



*Singer Judy Collins will be performing on July 31*

# MAY RETIREES

*Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:*

**AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:** Silvestre B. Pascua  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:** Alfred G. Medina  
**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Irving Grace, Sandra J. Meeker, Joyce C. Williams  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Dinko J. Bozanich, Malcolm Jordan, Sara E. St. Clair, Bradford E. Stone, Gay L. Willott  
**FIRE:** Craig W. Compton, Duane A. Lewis, Richard A. Swingle  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Joseph A. Apusen, Barbara Bundage, Cion L. Castillo, Elaine Coffey, Michael T. Coover, Erma Gay, Rose E. Hunter, Richard Keabajian, Ida Lopez, Jacqueline Mack, Jessie F. Manns, Willie T. May, Elvia C. Meza, Patricia S. Newman, Douglas F. Therien, Arthur Tilzer, Donald Truitt, John A. Valentino, Wendell E. Waller, Wilbur E. White, Leonard Wise  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Rodney A. Coomber, Mark Kabacy, Sammie L. Thomas  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** Vera O. Castro, Joann Metoyer, Margaret C. Molina  
**PROBATION:** Miguel Aguilar, Johnny A. Bell, Minerva Casanas, Fredrick Chavez, Morton D. Gorel, Richard A. Marino, D'Artagnan Narvaez, Marco A. Otero, Zeola K. Rigmaiden, Stella D. Steward, Lenora Sulsona  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Dora A. Alter, Helen M. Hampton, Joan Jacocks, H.F. Kindell, Diana Llopis, Earline Neal, Maria A. Pina, Gaston B. Serrato, Gloria J. Somerville, Jeanette Thomas, Deborah L. Vego, Barbara J. Vinson, Alexa R. Waarbroek, Ione Williams, Judy Wilson  
**PUBLIC WORKS:** Kerry Vosburg  
**REGISTRAR RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Aquilla Figgins  
**SHERIFF:** Valeria L. Burwell, Edward H. Corpuz, Oliver Fuller III, Roy E. Geul, Mark S. Granzberg, Thomas V. Holeman, Ronald Merrill, Michael M. Nagaoka, Jimmie Oates Sr., John F. Parresol, Robert G. Sinclair, Harry Toluchanian, Richard B. Valdemar, Hugh E. Wahler, Elaine M. Waller  
**SUPERIOR COURT:** Hugh M. Bobys, Lawrence T. Jackson

*Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:*

**AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:** Perlita Tolentino  
**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Habib A. Farag  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Monika M. Blodgett, Susan W. Catalano  
**FIRE:** Ronald M. Magnuson

## RETIREES

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## EVENTS

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**Music Center**  
**135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012**  
**(213) 972-7211**  
[www.musiccenter.org](http://www.musiccenter.org)

### Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

May 22 - June 19 – *Le nozze di Figaro* (The Marriage of Figaro)  
May 27 - June 20 – *Il trovatore* (The Troubador)

**Walt Disney Concert Hall**  
**151 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012**

### **The Baroque Variations Series**

Jun 8 - Monteverdi: *Vespers of 1610*

### **Green Umbrella**

Jun 1 - Building Music Festival - Brant, Ruders, Feldman, Varese

### **Los Angeles Philharmonic**

May 21-23 - Salonen / Kremer - Lindberg, Sibelius

May 28-30 – Building Music - Lim, Mozart, Brahms

Jun 3 - 4, 6 - Building Music - Berlioz *Requiem*

Jun 5 - Building Music - Lim, Salonen, Xenakis, Lindberg

Jun 11-13 – Building Music – Salonen, Rachmaninoff, Stravinsky

**Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden**  
**301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia**

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes, please visit [www.arboretum.org](http://www.arboretum.org) or call (626) 821-4623

May 22 - June 2 – Annual Korean Garden Festival

**Los Angeles County Museum of Art**  
**5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036**  
**(323) 857-6000**

[www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org)

June 12 – 10<sup>th</sup> Annual ArtWalk

**Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**  
**900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles**

**(213) 763-3466**

[www.nhm.org](http://www.nhm.org)

Through September 1 – Live Butterflies All Around!

Through Jan 2005 – L.A.: Light, Motion, Dreams



## Supervisor Burke Attends Unveiling of Inglewood Courthouse Photo Display

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke joined officials at the Inglewood Courthouse for the unveiling of a photographic display honoring the diversity of people who have fought for civil rights in the United States. “It is an exhibit of great civil rights heroes, and is the culmination of the Inglewood Courthouse Beautification Project that started two years ago,” she told those gathered at the unveiling.



*Supervisor Burke (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) joined by (from left to right) Judge Eric Taylor, former Inglewood Court Presiding Judge; Robert Dukes, Presiding Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court; and Debra Yang, U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California, at the Inglewood court photo exhibit.*

The photographs included one of Supervisor Burke with Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley; Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., being greeted by Supervisor Burke’s predecessor, Kenneth Hahn, at Los Angeles International Airport; Robert Kennedy and Cesar Chavez sitting together; Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall; U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California, Debra Yang, being sworn in; the civil rights march

on Montgomery, Alabama; and the famous photo of the flag being planted in triumph in Iwo Jima during World War II.

Supervisor Burke noted that she had helped purchase benches, the planting of flowers in the patio, and enlarging and framing of photos for the display, after being approached by Judge Eric Taylor, who at that time was Presiding Judge of the Inglewood Municipal Court.

“I want to congratulate Judge Taylor for spearheading this project,” Supervisor Burke said. “It pays tribute to an important time in American history, and I feel very honored to have my photo included in such a collection.”

The photographs have been moved to various sites in the courthouse. Supervisor Burke’s photograph is in the Jury Room.



*Supervisor Burke (left) chatted with Debra Yang in front of a photo of Supervisor Burke and the late Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, and a photo of Attorney Yang being sworn in as U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California.*

### RETIREES

*continued from page 4*

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Sandra Atnip, Pearl E. Barnes, Rosita S. Cabula, Mitzi V. DeDios, Angelita V. Gedang, Mae N. Harris, Vernetta Holmes, Delores D. Jones, Yolanda Melara, Florine Powell, Fortunata B. Ruiz, Jose R. Sanchez, Kang-Ling Sun, Beatrice Taylor, Bruce H. Wauke

**INTERNAL SERVICES:** William Mackie, Sylvia E. Portillo

**MENTAL HEALTH:** Rodolfo Garcia, Deanna Goodlow, Cecilia Hugo

**PROBATION:** Ronald Barragan

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Celine J. Cunha, Clover Hamilton, Isabel Wagner

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Raymond Coutee, Sameer A. Etman

**SHERIFF:** Khedry S. Abdelmeseh, Drew C. Britness, Randy V. Evans, Judith Gibson, Ronald E. Orantes, Debra J. Sulstrom

**SUPERIOR COURT:** Margaret P. MacCurdy

*“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”*

# ENRICHING LIVES...

Supervisor Molina Celebrates Third Annual César E. Chávez Community Service Week  
*Turnout High; Probation Department Employees Especially Active*

Supervisor Gloria Molina and thousands of County employees volunteered their services throughout the Southland during the County of Los Angeles' Third Annual César E. Chávez Week, which took place from March 26-31. Molina initially created the "working holiday" to commemorate the life and accomplishments of the legendary United Farm Workers labor leader. Typically, the County celebrates Chávez Week during the week prior to his birthday on March 31.

"I am so pleased that such a large number of County employees continue to participate in Chávez Week each year," Supervisor Molina said. "It's a great way for people to help improve our community while simultaneously paying respect to César. And it's the least we can do to honor a man who dedicated his life to improving basic working conditions for thousands of workers and who inspired millions more to take up the cause."

Approximately 1,783 County employees volunteered their time at various community gardens, beautification projects, food shelters, and beach clean-ups across the county in addition to tutoring sessions at the county's Probation Department camps and libraries. In addition, County employees donated more than 25,737 pounds of food – about 20,590 meals – to needy families via 185 county facilities.

Participation in all County departments was commendable but employees from the Probation Department were especially involved this year.

At Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall in Sylmar, the Los Angeles Salsa Dance Company performed a ballet in honor of Chávez. Central Juvenile Hall in Los Angeles hosted a pair of special assemblies featuring the live entertainment of the Ray Sandoval Band. Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall in Downey welcomed inspirational speaker and former boxing Heavyweight Champion of the World Ken Norton.

In addition, staff from the three juvenile halls hosted basketball clinics and life skills workshops for youth at Athens



*Dozens of at-risk youth submitted scores of original artwork – like this piñata from Camp Munz and Camp Mendenhall – which was inspired by Chávez' life and work.*

Park in South L.A., Belvedere Park in East Los Angeles, the Boys & Girls Club of the San Fernando Valley, El Dorado Park in Long Beach, Hubert H. Humphrey Park in Pacoima, the Nueva Maravilla Housing Project in East Los Angeles and Pamela Park in Duarte.



*Chávez' niece, Marina Elena Chávez, admires artwork on display at the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach.*

Eight Probation camps also hosted a variety of events.

Camp Clinton B. Afflerbaugh & Joseph Paige in La Verne featured the Pomona High School honor guard, Asosal Ballet Folklorico dancers, and the band "Klavo."

At Camp Fred Miller in Malibu, staff arranged for a variety of festivities including Montebello High School Folklorico dancers, a special tribute to long-time County of Los Angeles



*Supervisors Gloria Molina and Don Knabe congratulate Ivan V., who was awarded First Place for his unique portrayal of Chávez as part of the César E. Chávez Youth Arts Program.*

Commissioner Sybil Brand, and a presentation of poetry authored by youth from the camp who participated in the Dreamyard Los Angeles program.

Camp Glenn Rockey in San Dimas, hosted a program featuring Aztec dancers, live music from D.J. Cardenas, and a video documentary on the life of César E. Chávez by Albert Melena of San Fernando Valley Partnership. Members of Students Against Substance Abuse, the Associated Student Union, Child Development Engineering, and the Administration of Justice Club from East Los Angeles Community College assisted with the festivities.

Camp Kenyon J. Scudder in Saugus featured the Santa Clarita Ballet Folklorico under the direction of Luz Medina, as well as Folklorico dancers from Pioneer High School in Whittier. Probation Department staff volunteered time mentoring youth residing at Camps Afflerbaugh, Vernon Kilpatrick, Miller, Rockey, Louis Routh and Scudder.

Probation Department staff also participated in activities outside the camp and hall infrastructure. Staff helped out at Griffin Avenue Elementary School’s “Career Day;” assisted with spring cleaning at the Carson Senior Citizen Group & Downtown Women’s Center; donated clothing to the Midnight Mission; and delivered “Sunshine” greeting cards designed by the juvenile hall boys and girls to the Community Health Center in Downey.

Chávez Week culminated at the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach on March 31. The event showcased the visual and literary works of youth associated with the Probation Department, as well as other at-risk youth who participated in this year’s César E. Chávez Youth Arts Program. The artwork also was on display at the annual Chávez Walk and Festival held at Olvera Street on Saturday, March 27.

“It was such a delight to view all the original artwork created by youth associated with the County,” Molina said. “It’s a testament to the inspirational nature of Chávez’ life.”

*“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”*



## County of Los Angeles VISION

Our **purpose** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our **philosophy** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our shared values:

- ◆ responsiveness
- ◆ professionalism
- ◆ accountability
- ◆ compassion
- ◆ integrity
- ◆ commitment
- ◆ a can-do attitude
- ◆ respect for diversity

Our **position** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- ◆ a capability to undertake programs that have public value
- ◆ an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation
- ◆ a pledge to always work to earn the public trust

## County Launches Bioterrorism Preparedness Awareness Campaign

Department of Health Services' officials want the public to be aware of what they can do to prepare for a bioterrorism or other public health emergency.

"It doesn't require expensive equipment or medications," said Jonathan Fielding, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Public Health and Health Officer. "The public needs to know that being prepared for bioterrorism means having a plan and basic emergency supplies that we should all have in place living in southern California where earthquakes are common."

The Bioterrorism Preparedness Awareness Campaign features billboards and radio ads and are part of the County's Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program funded through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"There are concrete basic emergency preparedness activities that the public can undertake that are important for all public health emergencies including bioterrorism," Dr. Fielding said. "Undertaking some basic preparatory activities now, can help reduce fear and panic in the event of an actual bioterrorism or other public health emergency."

In addition to encouraging the public to prepare, the department is conducting its own preparedness activities. "Increasing laboratory, disease surveillance and public health emergency response capacity has been the focus of this program since its inception in 1999," said Sharon Grigsby, M.B.A., Executive Director of the Department's Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program. "Staff has been trained and health professionals Countywide have received education to help prepare to respond should a bioterrorism emergency occur. It's important for the residents of Los Angeles County to know that keeping them safe and healthy is our full time job."

The public has an important role by preparing as they would for any emergency or disaster. The Health

Department recommends the public prepare as they would for an earthquake or other emergency. This includes:

- Having enough supplies for each member of the household for at least three days.
- Having a plan to contact all family members if something happens during the workday.
- In the event of an emergency, monitor the news media for instructions or information from health and safety officials.

Supplies should include:

- 3-day supply of water (1 gallon per person per day for drinking and hand washing)
- 3-day supply of food, such as dried or canned foods
- Can opener
- 1 change of clothes and shoes for each person



- 1 blanket or sleeping bag for each person
- First aid kit which includes your family's prescribed medicines
- Battery-powered radio, flashlight, extra batteries, and waterproof matches
- Soap, toilet paper and extra plastic bags
- Any special items for infant, elderly, or disabled family members
- Extra pair of eyeglasses
- Copy of important family papers in a fireproof container

## Supervisor Yaroslavsky Presents a Check to Topanga Elementary School

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky presents a symbolic check to Lisa Klinger, President, Topanga Enrichment Program, representing a \$10,000 contribution of Third District funds to underwrite supplementary classroom materials for children attending Topanga Elementary School. Supervisor Yaroslavsky's local grant complemented additional recent federal funding grants for the school's programs.



## Supervisor Yaroslavsky at the Hollywood Bowl



Announcing the 2004 Inaugural Season in the brand new Hollywood Bowl shell, Supervisor Yaroslavsky joins, *from the left*, Los Angeles Philharmonic President Deborah Borda; Ming Fung and Craig Hodgetts of the Hodgetts+Fung architecture firm; and John Mauceri, Principal Conductor of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra. The replacement shell harks back to the classic look of the 1920s, and for the first time will be large enough to accommodate the full symphony orchestra with a state-of-the-art acoustic design. Please visit [www.hollywoodbowl.org/calendar](http://www.hollywoodbowl.org/calendar) for the performance schedule; and visit [www.hollywoodbowl.com/about/bowl\\_shell.cfm](http://www.hollywoodbowl.com/about/bowl_shell.cfm), to learn more about the project itself.

## Northrop Grumman Manufacturing Center Dedication

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky honored Dr. David G. Lynch, "father of the Hemispherical Resonator Gyro (HRG)," a sophisticated high-performance spacecraft and missile guidance navigational instrument, at Northrop Grumman Corporation's Navigation Systems Division dedication of its new HRG manufacturing center in Woodland Hills. Northrop relocated the facility from Goleta, near Santa Barbara, to consolidate Division operations in Woodland Hills where the Division, with nearly 2,000 employees, is headquartered. Company officials noted that this gyro, capable of sensing minute changes in vibration patterns on a thin-walled glass shell to gauge its movement, supports long-term space missions in applications including communications, earth sciences studies and deep space exploration.



**YAROSLAVSKY**  
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### BIOTERRORISM

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Supplies should be kept in sturdy and easy-to-carry containers (e.g. backpacks, duffle bags or covered trash containers) and stored in a place that is easy to get to during an emergency or a disaster.

Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease prevention and control and community and family health.

## Supervisor Yaroslavsky Attends “Healthy Parks” Event at the Coliseum



Visiting the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum to kick off the County’s “Healthy Parks” campaign, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky is joined by Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke and Stan Lee, Parks and Recreation Commissioner for Supervisor Burke’s Second District and a member of the Board of Directors for the County’s Parks Foundation. The Board of Supervisors declared April as “Healthy Parks Month” as part of an effort to raise awareness of the role that parks and their community partners play in reducing childhood obesity and promoting health and fitness activities. Supervisor Yaroslavsky noted that the County’s most recent Health Survey last year found that more than half of the adults and children surveyed in a random sample of some 14,000 respondents

considered themselves obese or overweight. County health officials say that combined public and private health care spending in the County related to obesity has grown to nearly 10% of total health care costs, a rate comparable to tobacco-related health care expenses. Obesity is one of the fastest growing health problems among the County’s youth, while the incidence of Type 2 diabetes, historically associated with middle aged adults, has also been rising among County teens. Visit [lapublichealth.org](http://lapublichealth.org) for the latest County findings on the relationship between nutrition, fitness, obesity and related health issues.

## Chief P. Michael Freeman: Celebrating 15 Years of Service

Fifteen years ago, P. Michael Freeman became the eighth Fire Chief of the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD). Following a national recruitment and selection effort, the Board of Supervisors appointed Chief Freeman as County Forester and Fire Warden at its meeting held on December 20, 1988. From the moment he was sworn in, he embarked on his mission to manage the massive Fire Department and position it as a front-runner fire agency in the nation.

In the past 15 years, LACoFD’s growth has paralleled the region’s burgeoning population of the 1990s, increasing its ranks from 2,800 to almost 4,000 employees. Nine new fire stations have been constructed and seven contract cities have joined the Consolidated Fire Protection District since 1989. Six additional fire stations are in development. His visionary leadership is evident in many major Department achievements, including the development of several specialized emergency response and community services programs. The Urban Search and Rescue and Hazardous Materials Task Forces, the 1996 creation of a Terrorism Response Section, and the successful merger of the County’s Lifeguard and Health Hazardous Materials operations into LACoFD are just a few. In 1994, air attack capability for wildland fires increased with use of

contracted Superscooper airplanes and again in 2001, with the purchase of two Sikorsky Firehawk helicopters, crediting LACoFD as the first fire department in the nation to be equipped with this multi-mission, firefighting version of the U.S. military’s Blackhawk helicopter.



As CEO, he has faced many financial challenges in managing the Department’s growth during dynamic economic times. Perhaps his greatest challenge and success was the passage of Proposition E in 1997. Within 60 days, Chief Freeman and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 1014 launched and passed, by a 77 percent vote, a massive public appeal to approve a special tax to prevent 20 fire stations from closure and a reduction in service levels.

Following the September 11 terrorist attacks and the formation of the federal government’s Department of Homeland Security, Chief Freeman was appointed to several national committees to help address the country’s heightened security issues, including the President’s Senior

**FREEMAN**

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## Supervisor Antonovich Salutes Los Angeles County’s Guard and Reserve Members

At the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, March 23, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich acknowledged and thanked County of Los Angeles employees who serve our country as guard and reserve members.

Forty-five employees representing 20 different County departments and all branches of military services attended the Board meeting and were met with a 30-second ovation after they were introduced. There are nearly 800 County employees who are reservists standing ready to serve, and 91 that are currently serving on active duty to fight the war on terrorism at home and abroad. More than 1 million Americans serve in the guard and reserve forces, representing one half of our total military forces.

When called to active duty, these citizen soldiers put their civilian careers on hold to preserve our freedom. The County of Los Angeles is committed to supporting its employees who are called up for active duty by guaranteeing return to employment, providing differential pay and allowing continued accrual of sick and vacation time during deployments as provided by County ordinance.

Unfortunately, for many guard and reserve soldiers, employers are not so generous or understanding of both

federal law protecting soldiers and the critical role our reservists play in national security. The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) was established in 1972 by Presidential proclamation to address these issues. An agency of the Department of Defense, the ESGR relies upon a volunteer force of 4,000 representatives nationwide to educate employers on the rights of reservists as outlined in the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Act.



On March 16, the Board of Supervisors adopted a motion commending the ESGR for their efforts and agreed to sign the organization’s “Statement of Support.” Rear Admiral David Janes, National Chair of the ESGR, *pictured with Supervisor Antonovich and Colonel Joseph N. Smith, Director, Military & Veterans Affairs* attended the Board meeting to celebrate the signing.

### FREEMAN

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Advisory Committee. Through it all, he remains totally committed to his role as Fire Chief, continuing his oath to serve the people of the County of Los Angeles.

Our salute to you and our congratulations on the achievement of this milestone in your distinguished career as a firefighter and our Fire Chief!

## Experience LA: An Exciting New Online Resource on the Web



Experience LA is an exciting new online resource for exploring the Los Angeles region’s wealth of cultural attractions. It is the definitive Cultural Information Portal for the greater Los Angeles area, providing searchable destination and event directories, interactive maps and cultural itineraries, and easy-to-use information on using public transit to see it all.

Experience LA is an exciting new online resource for exploring the Los Angeles

Experience LA is a public service provided by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), the City of Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, LA Inc., the Convention and Visitors Bureau, University of Southern California and a group of other private and public partners.

For more information, please visit [www.ExperienceLA.com](http://www.ExperienceLA.com).

*“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”*

# Share It

## Summer Beach Bus Services Start Soon!



Summer is nearly here and it will soon be time for our kids and family members to gather their beach gear and head to the shore! Public Works is making that trip easier for everyone living in several unincorporated areas. How? It's easy...it's time to RIDE the SUMMER BEACH BUS! Service starts in mid June and runs through Labor Day from the following areas to the Santa Monica State Beach:

- Altadena
- Antelope Valley
- Charter Oak
- La Crescenta/La Cañada Flintridge
- Santa Clarita Valley
- Topanga Canyon/Canoga Park

The Topanga Canyon/Canoga Park route also serves the Topanga County Beach and the Will Rogers State Beach.

Starting June 1, you may call our toll free number (888) 769-1122 or visit [www.ladpw.org](http://www.ladpw.org) for more information on individual routes, schedules, and fares.

The Altadena, Antelope Valley, and Charter Oak services are financed by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich. The La Crescenta/La Canada Flintridge service is financed by Supervisor Antonovich and the City of La Canada Flintridge. The Santa Clarita Valley service is financed by Supervisor Antonovich and the City of Santa Clarita. The Topanga Canyon/Canoga Park service is financed by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and the City of Los Angeles.



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